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TO
The moſt Honorable
THE
Council of State,

The humble Petition of Captain *William Jackett*, and his Partners.

Sheweth,

THat whereas the humble Petitioners were in the year 1648 (ſince this Sate was reduced into a Commonwealth) moſt unjuſtly and inhumanely dealt withal by the King of *Spain*, and his Officers; and eſpecially, by the moſt diſloyal proceedings of *Don Franciſco Baracall de Campo*, who, contrarie to the Laws of Nations, deprived them of the value of threeſcore thouſand pound ſterling, as it is more at large expreſſed in the annexed Relation.

Moreover, whereas the truth of their Caſe is evidently apparant by authentick proofs, under the Signatures of Spaniſh Notaries, the which your humble Petitioners have to produce; and that they cannot obtain any juſtice at all: for that their Ships and Specialties have been diſpoſed of to the ſaid King's uſe, whereby their Caſe is rendered moſt deſperate: Beſides, the barbarous impriſonments which they ſuffered, and where they might have periſhed, had they not by providence made an eſcape.

So it is, that your humble Petitioner having found a way whereby this Commonwealth may right them, by ſuch

means as are moſt conſonant to this Commonwealth's equitie and power; on ſuch juſt preſidents as were made uſe of in Queen *Eliſabeth*'s time, and the ſame which are to this day practiſed by the *Spaniards* themſelvs, the *French*, *Danes*, and *Hollanders*, *viz.* by this Commonwealth's allotting unto your humble Petitioner a ſatisfaction out of ſuch effects as are in this Commonwealths poſſeſſion, and the which do belong unto the *Spaniards*.

Now, whereas this State is at preſent poſſeſſed of ſuch monies and effects, as appertain unto divers Spaniſh Inhabitants of thoſe parts of the *Indies*, where your humble Petitioners ſuſtained their ſaid loſſes: The which monies and effects were brought up hither by one Captain *Stafford*, Commander of the Ship *Sancta Clara* from St *Domingo*;

Your humble Petitioners therefore crave, That the monies at preſent claimed by the Spaniſh Embaſſador, and other his Maſter's ſubjects, may by your Honor's order be appliedto the Petitioner's re-imburſment; And that the King of *Spain* may bee left to give ſatisfaction unto his Subjects with your Petitioner's monies and effects, ſo unjuſtly taken and detained from them, on a pretended occaſion, without any example.

And they ſhall ever pray, &c.

The State of Captain *William Jackett's*, and his Partner's Caſe.

Anno 1647. *Will. Jackett* Commander of the *Mayflower*, a Ship of 400 Tuns and 30 pieces of Ordnance, together with the *Peter* of 100 Tuns and ten pieces of Ordnance (being laden with ſeveral marchandize) ſet ſail from *London* the 16th of *June*, and arrived in *Guiny* in the Month of *September* following, where the ſaid Captain *Jackett* bought 460 *Negro's* or *Blacks*, intending to ſell them where hee beſt might: But touching at the *Barbado's*, hee there met with one *Don Lewis de Chaves*, a Subject of the King of *Spain*, unto whom the ſaid King of *Spain* had granted a free Licence for to freight any Ship of what Nation ſoëver, that was in peace with the Crown of *Spain*, for to tranſport *Negro's* into the *Indies*; whereupon Captain *Jackett* made an agreement with the ſaid *Don Lewis de Chaves* to go with him into the *Indies*; and by the ſaid agreement, the ſaid *Don Lewis de Chaves* was bound to enter the ſaid Captain *Jackett's Negro's* in the ſaid Licence with his own, which accordingly was don: And on the 25 of *March*, they arrived in the *Weſt-Indies*, where beeing com to an anchor, were permitted to com on ſhoar, where they met the Governour and the reſt of the King of *Spain's* Officers of that place, unto whom *Don Lewis* preſented his Licence, the which when as the ſaid Governor *Franciſco Baracall de Campo* Captain-General of the Province of *Catilonia*, and Governor of *Barſilonia* in the *Indies* had peruſed, hee accepted

cepted thereof as a thing legal and valid, demanding of Cap. *Jackett* what Countriman, and whence hee was; who made anſwer, That hee was an Engliſhman, Inhabitant of *London*, and that hee came thither freighted by *Don Lewis de Chaves*, to Trade there by virtue of that Licence the King of *Spain* had granted unto *Don Lewis de Chaves*; on the which, if ſo bee hee could bee received and admitted, to Trade with them hee would: but if the contrary, hee would preſently bee gone his waies.

Unto which declaration of Capt. *Jackett*'s the Governor replied, That *Don Lewis* his Licence ſhould bee conſidered of the next day in their Council, and if as then they found it legal or valid (as hee ſuppoſed the ſame to bee) they would give him their poſitive anſwer whether or no hee might bee received, and permitted to Trade.

According whereunto the chief Officers of the ſaid Council, together with the Maior of the ſaid Town, did the next day (by the Governor's order) com and viſit or ſearch the ſaid Cap. *Jackett*'s Ships, telling him that hee might on the above-ſaid Licence (which they had found to bee verie good and true) freely Trade amongſt them; whereupon they took a Regiſter of what *Negro's* and goods the ſaid Cap. *Jackett* had aboard his two Ships, to the end, that ſuch Cuſtom, as belonged to the King of *Spain* in thoſe parts, might bee paid; the which the ſaid Capt. *Jackett* immediately paid.

Moreover, the ſaid aſſurance thus given in the King's name to Trade freely there, and the Cuſtom paid, the ſaid Cap. *Jackett* proceeded to cut *Braſielleto* wood, and to buy Hides and Tobacco, and ſuch other Commodities as the Countrie afforded, and were requiſite to lade his Ships withal, continuing thus in his ſaid trafficking for the

the ſpace of near nine months; at the exſpiration where-of, the aforeſaid Governor conceiving that the ſaid Captain *Jackett* might bee ready to ſet ſail, hee as then corrupted his Chirurgion, and about fortie more of his men; with whom hee made a Covenant to betray into his hands the ſaid Captain *Jackett*'s perſon, and chief Officers, together with his ſhips, and lading, for ſuch a ſumme of monie as hee had contracted for, and obliged himſelf to give them, the which they received; and accordingly delivered up the ſaid Captain *Jackett*, his ſhip, and goods, amounting to the value of threeſcore thouſand pound ſterling, into the ſaid Governor's hand, notwithſtanding their former and formal declaration, and free admittance of Trade in thoſe parts, by virtue of the afore-mentioned *Don Lewis* his Licence, contrarie to the which, hee had not acted any thing.

Finally, by this unjuſt proceeding in the ſaid Governor, both the ſaid Captain *Jackett*, and his ſaid Partners were undon, after the ſaid Captain *Jackett* had in his own perſon ſuffered many extremities, during his detention in priſon, where hee had periſhed, had hee not by Providence been aſſiſted to make an eſcape.

All which appeareth by the Spaniards own papers, autorized by their own publick Notaries.

An

An Abbreviate of ſuch Arguments as the STATE may bee pleaſed to make uſe of, in the behalf of the aforeſaid Captain *William Jackett*, and his Partner's Plea.

IN the firſt place, That the wrongs which the Spaniards have don unto Captain *William Jackett* were during this Parlament's Aſſembling; and that the ſaid *Don Franciſco de Baracall de Campo* did corrupt the ſaid Captain *Jackett* his men, for to deliver up unto him the ſaid Captain's ſhips, and goods, out of a ſpleen to the Parlament, declaring to the Governor, that the ſaid Captain was ſent as a ſpie, to ſee their Countrie, that hee might the better com with a Fleet by the Parlament's order to take their Countrie from them: on which report the Captain was ordered to be hanged in the market place, but on better conſideration, after they had heard him ſpeak, was onely ſent priſoner to *Spain*.

In regard whereof the ſaid Captain his ſhips and goods were converted to the King of *Spain*'s uſe:

Whereby the ſaid Captain *Jackett* his Caſe differ's from all others, who before that time were wronged by the Spaniards.

Secondly, that all other Captains, or Sea-faring men, who paſt the Line, went thither on their own perils, which

which was not ſo with Captain *Jackett*, for that hee was freighted by *Don Lewis de Chaves*, a ſubject to the King of *Spain*, whoſe Licence was alſo acknowledged by the ſaid King's Governors in the Indies: Whereupon the ſaid Captain paied him in the Cuſtoms as then due.

Thirdly, that the King of *Spain* hath on ſeveral occaſions, ſeized on ſtrangers goods, on unjuſt pretences, even in his own Ports, as alſo the *French*, the *Danes*, and others have don:

In ſomuch that the ſaid Captain *Jackett* his Caſe differing from all other, doth the more argue (for that it is impoſsible for him and his Partners to obtein ſatisfaction from the King of *Spain*, far leſs from the ſaid *Franciſco Baracall de Campo*, who is a Governor in the Indies) that therefore this State cannot reſolv upon a piece of Juſtice more conſonant to their own honor, and the merit of the Caſe, then to right the ſaid Captain *Jackett*, and his Partners, by allotting them right and ſatisfaction out of the monies which are at preſent claimed by the Spaniſh Embaſſadors, in the behalf of his Maſters, and his Subjects.

FINIS.